Statement-III

Retail Selling Price (RSP) of Dometic LPG in Delhi-Amount of Increase/ Decrease

Date	RSP Per Cylinder	Increase/Decrease in RSP Per Cylinder
01.03.02	259.95	
17.03.02	240.45	(19.50)
16.06.04	261.60	21.15
05.11.04	281.60	20.00

Cancellation of route dispersal guidelines

*295. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to cancel route dispersal guidelines for private airlines; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Increasing activity of drug traffickers in H.P.

*296. SHRIMATI BIMBA RAIKAR Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India is a signatory to the UN Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances, 1988;

(b) whether Government are aware of the increasing activity of drug

traffickers, both local and foreign, in the resource areas of Himachal Pradesh, smuggling drugs both into and out of the country;

(c) whether cannabis derivatives, hashish and charas produced here are traded freely among foreign tourists; and

(d) whether Government would crack down on the influx of backpackers into Himachal for purposes other than holidaying even at the cost of losing tourism revenue?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) India is a signatory to the UN Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances, 1988.

(b) The trend of seizures of major drugs in Himachal Pradesh in the last three years 2002, 2003 and 2004, as given in the table below, does not indicate any rise in drug trafficking in Himachal Pradesh.

Seizures of drugs, including hashish, in Himachal Pradesh

Year	Qty. Seized (in Kg)				Cases	Total Arrests
	Hashish	Heroin	Opium	Total		
2002	690	0.16	15.87	706.03	267	316 (43 foreigners)
2003	371	8.03	30.28	409.31	266	293 (12 foreigners)
2004	297.92	27.55	17.05	342.52	180	197 (9 foreigners)

(c) While seizures indicate that Himachal Pradesh is prone to illicit trafficking in Hashish (Charas), the same is a clandestine activity. There has been no report of Hashish and Charas being traded freely among foreign tourists in Himachal Pradesh.

(d) Government is committed to combat the menace of illicit trafficking in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances. Action under the Narcotic Drugs and psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act, 1985 is taken against all persons, including foreigners, indulging in illicit trafficking in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances. No distinction is made between one offender and another.